

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

Sep 1992



From The President's Desk

By Alan Churchill, AA7CV

A couple of weeks ago I got a call from the nicest guy in the world - Stan W7NI. He told me about a fellow ham here in town who is scheduled to move in a month or so and had some gear to sell. Would I call her and see what she might want to put in the paper? Sure Stan. After all, when the nicest guy in the world calls, you better listen. It isn't getting any better after all.

Well, the ad is in this newsletter but that isn't what was so rewarding. It turned out that Gladys, K7EQM and her husband Sid, W7IYW has come to our country in the early 50s and had to wait five years for their citizenship and ham tickets. Both of them eventually got their extra class licenses. In fact they were licensed about a year before my first ticket. Anyway, the years rolled on and Sid passed away nearly four years ago. Both Sid and Gladys got their WAC from their hilltop QTH.

Times and housing needs change though and now it is time for Gladys to move so she asked if maybe I knew someone who would be able to take her 71' tower down. It's a little difficult for someone in her 60s to wrestle down a 475 pound crankup. I made some calls and a HOARD of hams showed up to help Gladys prepare for her move. They not only got the tower down but took care of lots of other projects that are hard for older people to do. As I watched my fellow hams hard at work helping someone they didn't even know I felt awfully good about this hobby and the caliber of people it attracts.

Good for you my fellow OTVARC members. Hamming isn't all DX, code speed and transistors. Every now and then the smile of a very appreciative widow slips in and we're all reminded that this really is more than a hobby.

73, Alan

PCC To Offer Amateur Classes Fall Term

By Alan Roehl, K07B

Two amateur radio related classes will be offered through PCC for the Fall term. One will be oriented towards obtaining a Novice license. The second will help those already licensed upgrade to a higher class of license. The Novice class will begin on September 22 (Tuesday) and the upgrade class will begin on September 23 (Wednesday). The classes will be held weekly from 7 to 9 PM. Both will be located at Cedar Park School, Room A11.

You may register in advance through PCC, or at the class site on the first night. Test sessions will be scheduled in conjunction with the classes to allow students an opportunity to obtain or upgrade their license. And don't forget that OTVARC provides a scholarship which will reimburse the tuition fee those who obtain their Novice license as a result of taking the Novice class.

At the next meeting

Repeaters Repeaters! This will be one of those "Everything you always wanted to know about repeaters but were afraid to ask" programs. Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Clause and in our club he is Wes Allen K7WWG, the provider of our great 6.90 repeater. Wes will fill us in on all the particulars of building, testing and maintaining a repeater. If we are lucky, he may even give us some tips on good repeater etiquette and may even give us that tone combination we all know exists that opens a direct path to European DX on 2M. Be sure to bring your handheld for an interesting demo. (Full program)

A QSL card from an OO? What is an OO and why would you get a friendly QSL card from one? What makes the Observer Official and who gives them that authority? Getting a card from an OO is infinitely more pleasant than the alternative and Paul Schaff WB7BBG will fill us in on all the details of this important function. (Short program)

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AND MORE!!

The DX Corner

By Rich, KG7FS

Delta Xray — DX — Long Distance — Far Far Away.

To most hams the letters DX remind us of the other side of the world, strange accents and late night hours (sometimes). I remember one night two years ago about midnight, I got up from bed and went into the shack.

The weather was warm for late May and I couldn't sleep very well. The rig was on 15 meters and connected to the Hygain 15 meter monobander. The antenna was pointing out west from an afternoon QSO with a JA so I slowly turned across the band and heard absolutely nothing. I stopped on 21,313 for no reason at all and called CQ 3 times.

WHAM. Right back came YJ8RN on Vanuatu in the South Pacific! His signal was very strong and so was mine on his end. We were both barefoot at 100 watts. We chatted for about 40 minutes, a real old fashioned ragchew.

When I 73'd and tied the ribbons you'd thought the band had come alive. State side hams who had been listening were calling the YJ. Se 73'd and QRT'd with regrets and there was silence again.

The morale of the story is call CQ when all seems dead on the high frequencies. Day or night, sunspots or no. With the solar cycle the way it is, this could really pay off. September could be a real sleeper this year. Good hunting and DX.

Rich, KG7FS

Upcomming Test Sessions

Date: September 19

Registration: 12 P.M.

Doors Close: 1:00 P.M.

Location: PCC SE Center, 2850 SE 82nd, Room B1

Contact: Lee Ball, AL7W, 777,1032

Date: September 13

Registration: 12 P.M.

Doors Close: 1:00 P.M.

Location: Clark County Public Service Building

1200 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver, WA

Date: October 11

Registration: 1 P.M.

Doors Close: 1:30 P.M.

Location: Portland Adventist Medical Center, Educational Center A, 10123 S.E. Market, Portland

Contact: Edith Litvin, KA7MIF, 642-5803

(Due to the limited space, those wishing to take exams must call Edith prior to the examination date. The sooner you call, the better your chance of assuring a seat for the examination.)

Congratulations to Jeri Kubitz, N7TYP. Jeri upgraded from Codeless Tech to Tech Plus at a recent test session at Mount Bachelor.

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What's Happening Around OTVARC?

Informational Packet:

OTVARC has been beaten. We've been bested. We are the looser. We are in second place.

OTVARC New Member Packet:

Hoodview has a better "New Member Packet". Wait a minute. Hoodview has A "New Member Packet". We have nothing, nada, zilch.

But you can help. Once again our club can have the proudest new members anywhere. We can put together a BETTER packet. More pictures, more information, more excitement. Yes, you can be a part of publishing this great packet and help return our OTVARC club to prominence.

Volunteer today for this one-day project. We will get together on Saturday after the next meeting and get it done. Contact Al Berg or Alan Churchill for location of the meeting.

Tigard High To Have HF Station:

Tigard High will have a real ham radio station at the school thanks to Barbara Rudolph, associate principal at Tigard HS. If you would like to donate time or equipment to this worthy cause, call Randy KZ7T. Thanks.

Training, Training, Training:

Would you like to really understand the theory of all this great radio gear you own. Now you can by attending the training classes put on by none other than Joe Boyd, N7VZS our technical guru. Joe will let us know soon about dates and times but be forewarned, you listen to Joe and you LEARN something!

Election of Club Officers:

Yep, it is that time of year again. At the next meeting we will introduce our nominating committee and begin the process of selecting the officers for OTVARC for next year. Start narrowing down the list of positions you would like to run for. Talk to those friends of yours that you would like to see serve as officers. Get involved. We need someone to blame.

OTVARC Trading Post

Wanted:

Yaesu FTV 2650 6M transverter. Under \$1000. Ed N7SNT 636-8226.

For Sale:

The last parts of a great ham station. Included are boxes of wire, tools, parts, rope, insulators, and lots of junk. 110 volt Powerstat, \$25. Strain gauge for guy wire testing \$25. 50' 4 conductor weatherproof cable \$25. E H Scott Radio Labs SLR12B general coverage receiver (military) \$50. All this is owned by Gladys Broughton K7EQM 286-4293 or you may contact Alan Churchill AA7CV at 639-5660 for more details. Gladys will be moving soon so all must go. By the way, Gladys' late husband was Sid, W7IYW.

For Sale:

TR4 Drake Transceiver. Includes manuals, Power supply, desk mic. 6146 finals. Phone Gordon W7MAM at 324-9600 for details.

For Sale:

AEA QT-1 300 watt antenna tuner. Nearly new. Only good clean RF has been put through it. Cost \$160. Sell for \$120. Alan AA7CV 639-5660.

Events Calendar

September 1, 2 & 3

Artquake. Help lost Children
Contact Wes, K7WWG

September 2

Board Meeting at Geno's place.

September 9

OTVARC General Club Meeting
Beaverton Elks Club
6 P.M. Dinner, 7 P.M. meeting.

September 12

Olympia Car Rally
See Bill N7VZF or Bill W7GUH
for details

September 12

Beaverton Good Neighbor Days
OTVARC will probably help
with communication. Contact
Tim, N7UCA.

December 9

OTVARC Christmas Party.

For Sale:

Member badges for OTVARC members. For only \$4 you get your very own name and call on a pin so we will all know who you are at the meetings. Contact John KA7ICV at any regular meeting to order yours.

Electronics Yard Sale

Saturday, September 12, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Tools, Electronics, Great Stuff! Bring something if you want to sell it. Contact Stan and Pat Griffiths, 18955 S.W. Blanton, Aloha, 649-0837.

For Sale:

Kenwood TM-221A, 2 meter mobile FM transceiver, 45 watts, multiple memories, scanning, backlighted liquid crystal display, more. Asking \$200. Call Alan, KO7B, 292-5243.

For Sale:

Nearly New, in the box, 15 element 2-Meter Hy-Gain Beam. \$50. Will, N7THL, 642-7314.

Upcomming Test Sessions

Sept 12 7 AM to 5 PM
Saratoga County RACES Assn
County Fairgrounds
Ballston Spa, NY
Swap Shop, Dealers
Camping, Junk
Admission \$4
Contact N2FEP
P.O. Box 41
Rock City Falls, NY 12863
Talk in 146.4, 147.00, 147.84
Contact Ray Deeth for beam headings.

Sept 26 9AM to 3PM Saturday
Tillamook Lincoln Co ARCs
Lincoln County Fairgrounds
Swap Meet, Commercial Exhibits
VE Testing 10AM
Hourly Prizes
\$5 at Door
Talkin on 146.52, 145.37, or 147.22
Contact Sam Dorning KA7EAT
304 NE Dorning St.
Waldport, OR 97394
503-334-3371

Sept 26, 10AM to 2PM
Benson Tech High School, W7YK Radio Club
Amateur Radio Teen Rally
Vancouver PUD Building (Clark Co)
In Orchards, WA
Parents, Teachers, Advisors welcome
Admission \$1 per person
Contact TGil Brently N7DCS at 206-774-2924

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Two Meters - Busy, But Organized

By Bill, N7RYW

A few weeks ago, I was busy tuning in a satellite. It was near the northern horizon when a young voice came booming across, slamming my meter all the way to the right. He had heard a signal and tried to make a contact. Once I took off the headphones and my ears stopped ringing, I tried to politely tell this person that the satellite sub-band was not the place for local simplex QSOs. Not really knowing what was happening, he wanted me to explain satellites right then and there. I finally had to just sign off.

The only rules about band use on Two Meters deals with the small CW segment at the bottom and beacons. The use of the rest is up to "Good Amateur Practice". To help with this, the ARRL has come up with a "Band Plan". There is a lot to the band plan, and memorizing it is not really practical. A better idea is to have a copy of it to check when you decide to go tuning around. There is a copy of all of the VHF and above band plans in the front of the Repeater Directory. Since not everyone has a repeater directory, here are the basics on Two Meters...

144.00 144.06 EME CW Earth-Moon-Earth
144.06 144.10 General CW
144.10 144.20 EME SSB
144.20 144.30 General SSB 144.20 Calling
144.30 144.50 Satellites
144.50 144.60 Translator Inputs
144.60 144.90 FM Repeater Inputs
144.90 145.10 FM Simplex
145.10 145.20 Translator & FM Repeater Outputs
145.20 145.50 FM Repeater Outputs
145.50 145.80 Misc. & Experimental Modes
145.80 146.00 Satellites
146.01 146.37 FM Repeater Inputs
146.40 146.58 FM Simplex
146.61 147.39 FM Repeater Outputs
147.42 147.57 FM Simplex
147.60 147.99 FM Repeater Inputs

You can see that there is a place for most anything. For modes that don't fit into these categories, there is an experimental modes segment, where you will also find our shuttle and the Russian Mir space station, since their mission is research and experimentation, and these frequencies are shared internationally.

A Repeater In The Sky!

What that curious person had heard was an FM Satellite. This satellite, Oscar 21, gets its power from a "Host" satellite. The Oscar unit is mounted on Cosmos 2123, a Soviet navigation and scientific platform. The satellites Digital Signal Processor receives on 435.016 mhz and sends this signal out on 145.990 mhz. Due to a lot of interference from Radar in some parts of the world, the receiver is not very sensitive, so you will need a beam of some sort pointed at the satellite. The passes last for about 12

minutes and are at about 10:00 am and pm.

Speaking of Space, the newest Shuttle Endeavor is scheduled for launch on Sept. 11, 7:25 am. This mission will be carrying Sarex, and will be a high inclination orbit. Unlike the last mission a month ago, this one will be quite visible here in Oregon. You don't need a satellite antenna setup (though it helps). A 2-meter quarter wave antenna with a good FM Mobile transceiver can work good. Avoid high gain vertical antennas, they have a null above the horizon where the shuttle flies. Here are the frequencies from NASAs press kit.

Ground station receive-145.550
Ground station transmit-144.950
144.970 144.910 depending on QRM.
Please do NOT transmit on 145.550 as you would with Mir. This can only cause QRM!

Local 2 Meter Nets

Here is a listing of two meter nets in the local area:

145.27	Daily	5:50 AM	Weather Net
145.27	Daily	4:24 PM	Weather Net
146.78	Daily	7:30 PM	Dist 4 ARES (Corvallis)
146.84	Daily	7:00 PM	PARC Checkin
147.32	Daily	6:05 PM	Traffic handling training net.
147.32	Daily	7:30 PM	District
145.27	Monday	8:30 PM	YL & Ladies Net
145.27	Tuesday	6:00 PM	DX Linkup to the East
145.27	Tuesday	9:00 PM	Computer Net
147.04	Tuesday	7:00 PM	WA Co. ARES Net
147.24	Tuesday	8:00 PM	Swap n Shop
145.27	Wednesday	8:00 PM	Intertie Checkin
146.90	3rd Wed	7:00 PM	OTVARC On The Air.
145.27	Thursday	7:00 PM	Evergreen Intertie Technical
145.27	Thursday	9:00 PM	NAPRA Packet Radio Ragchew
145.27	Friday	8:00 PM	Youth Net.
145.27	Saturday	9:00 AM	Swap Net
145.27	Saturday	12:00 PM	Nightowls Net
145.27	Sunday	10:00 PM	Astronomy Net

The Radio Clinic

By Dr. Hambones

Dear Hambones:

I saw some excellent test equipment prices at the SEAPAC flea market. However, I couldn't power up many units due to missing power cords. None one seemed to have the so-called HP round 3 pin AC cords. Where can I locate these in the OTVARC area?

Signed "Cordless"

Dear Disconnected,

Thanks for leaving some of those items for me to purchase! The round pin 3 wire AC cords can be found locally for \$3 or less at various surplus stores. To augment my SEAPAC purchases I tried the following stores: Tektronix Country Store (none), Wacky Willies (Aloha - none, PDX - new Belden 7.5') R5D3 (none), and Cascade Surplus Electronics (used). Wacky Willies calls them slide projector cords.

Rx -- next swapfest take assorted power and coax cables with you to check out the bargains. Remember: government bureaucrats render equipment unserviceable by removing AC cords, probes, and manuals. That's how they get money to buy the newest goodies at the taxpayers expense.

Dear Hambones:

Where can I get those little Japanese crimp-on coax connectors and cables found inside my rig as jumper cables?

Signed "ICOM Troubleshooter"

Dear I Can Only Monitor Tech:

Kenwood has come to the rescue by making available these cables with crimp-ons on one end (or both) and pig tails available on the other. Order them from Pacific Coast Parts (See July OTVARC News).

Rx--solder your wattmeter/dummy load connector on the solder lead end (BNC, SO239, etc) and check the ICOM drive level going to the PA assembly. ALC should be troubleshot first if driver/final is low. Don't waste money on replacing those expensive driver/final transistors until you get sufficient signal at your coax cable/wattmeter test lead.

Dear Hambones:

Various service manuals contain Level Diagrams and test points. How do I use these to trouble shoot my rig?

Signed "Sloper"

Dear Unleveled:

This month we will discuss TX levels and leave the RX levels for a future issue. The manufacturer measures a working unit tuned to a specified output power at center frequency. An Audio VTVM measures mic audio, etc., and RF VTVM measurements are taken at RF stages. Many units have the drive stages terminated in a 50 ohm load. This requires a cable to be fabricated and inserted in the drive socket and a wattmeter with dummy load inserted to check drive/predrive levels. If the drive levels are OK, then you have isolated your TX problem to the PA, LPF, output relay, etc. If the drive level is low, work

backward toward the mic until a faulty circuit is found, then use DC measurements to isolate the component(s). Check service manual for mode, if audio is applied to the mic input, output power reference, etc.

Rx--measure your rig with your test gear while it is still healthy and write the levels down in your service manual. Then, when it is ill, you know what the readings were for sure.

Dear Hambones:

How can I automatically obtain service bulletins, hints, etc., for my new rig??

Signed "Proud Owner"

Dear Owner:

The next time you try to haggle the price of a rig down at the store, why not ask the dealer to put your rig with its serial number in his computer data base and request the store to notify you or send you all future service manual updates, bulletins, etc., that apply to your rig. This is now common for aircraft electronic equipment owners and long overdue in the ham community with rigs running a kilobuck or more. Some manufacturers have a computer bulletin board that you can call but those appear to be sporadically updated. Instead of shaving \$ on that new rig, request the service manual and owner notification service as part of the sale. It will save you more bucks in the long run.

OTVARC Executive Board

President	Alan Churchill	AA7CV	639-5660
Vice President	Gene Buell	KA7KBH	646-7991
Secretary	Brad Beach	N7NVC	645-5232
Treasurer	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Trustee	Susan Benson	N7EPE	640-1989
Trustee	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Trustee	Pat Griffiths	KA7UFG	649-0837
Trustee	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518
Trustee	Alan Roehl	KO7B	292-5243

Other Club Contacts

Contesting	Open		
DX News	Rich	KG7FS	
Equipment Valuation	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Equipment Trustee	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Emergency Services	Tim Taylor	N7UCA	292-6830
Field Day	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Health & Welfare	Pat Griffiths	KA7UFG	649-0837
Newsletter Editor	Open		
Newsletter Layout	Jeff Durr	KA7AKU	645-3205
Newsletter Distribution	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Project Night	Open		
Public Service	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Repeater	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
Satellites	Red Robert	AA7CP	357-5747
Scholarship	Pat Griffiths	KA7UFG	649-0837
Sea-Pac	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
	Brad Beach	N7NVC	645-5232
	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518
Technical	Joe Boyd	N7VZS	678-2188
Testing	Alan Roehl	KO7B	292-5243
Trailer	Dee Lynch	KA7NPN	646-4580
Training	Tom Durell	KG7RD	
	Bill Vesser	N7RYQ	644-3739
VHF/UHF	Bill Roth	N7RYW	297-7605

OTVARC Club Information

Purpose: The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, a non profit corporation, wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective as well as established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service. Additionally, the intent is to promote the advancement of Amateur Radio Service through the following five objectives:

- 1.) Education & training of new and licensed amateurs.
- 2.) Public Service during public events & community activities.
- 3.) Emergency Communications during emergencies & disasters.
- 4.) Hobby enhancement through meetings, nets and contests.
- 5.) Social contact with other amateurs & interested persons.

Special Service Club: OTVARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. This means (among other things) that the club benefits from you joining the ARRL through our club. To join or renew the ARRL, contact the treasurer at any regular meeting.

Newsletter: The OTVARC NEWS is published monthly by the Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. The opinions, views and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the Club, it's officers, advertisers or the Editorial Staff. All correspondence relating to the club can be sent to: OTVARC, P.O. Box 5132, Aloha, Oregon, 97006-0132.

Advertising: Classified ads are free to all paid up members. Display ads are available to approved commercial interests. To place an ad, mail your camera ready copy to the address above and indicate the size and length of time desired. All ads must be paid for in advance. Rates for 1992:

Full Page	8" X 10"	\$40/Mo, \$110/Qtr or \$400/Yr.
Half Page	8" X 5"	\$25/Mo, \$ 70/Qtr or \$250/Yr.
Qtr Page	4" X 5"	\$15/Mo, \$ 40/Qtr or \$150/Yr.
Bus Card	2" X 3"	\$ 7/Mo, \$ 20/Qtr or \$ 70/Yr.

Meeting: We have three meetings per month - a board meeting (first Wednesday) at which all club business is transacted, a club meeting (second Wednesday) which is mostly social and educational and OTVARC On The Air (third Wednesday) which is a recap of the previous meeting. It is held from 7 - 7:30 PM on 146.90 Mhz.

Membership: OTVARC is open to anyone with an interest in radio or electronics. You do not need to be a licensed radio amateur to join our group.

1. Full, licensed hams, \$10/yr. All privileges.
2. Associate, non hams, \$10/yr. No vote, no elective offices.
3. Family, \$5/yr. Spouses, dependents residing with full member. Same privileges as full members.
4. Life. See treasurer for details.

All memberships expire on the last day of the calendar year. If you join in the 2nd quarter, deduct 25% from the dues above. If you join in the 3rd quarter, deduct 50% from the dues above. If you join in the 4th quarter, deduct 75% from the dues above. In addition to the dues, there is a one time only initiation fee of \$2.00.

How to Join: Simply mail the appropriate dues and your member profile form to the Treasurer, Carl Clawson WS7L at the PO Box above. He will send you put you on the membership list.

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- Come In And See The PR Team: Bob N7JXN, Buck WT7S, Doug WA7EJP, Stan WB7OKN, And Rich KG7FS.
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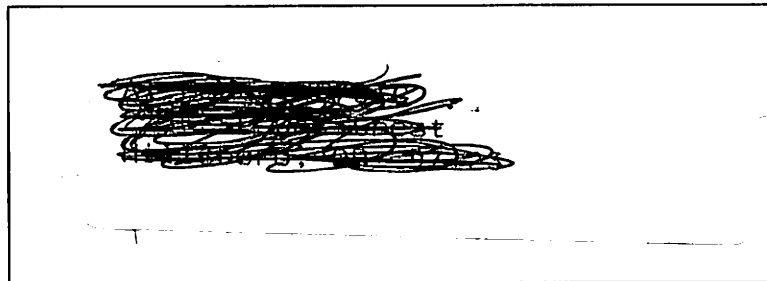


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